AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE:

Please amend the abstract as follows:

To reduce the risk of damage to the refractory material, in particular caused by the formation of cracks and corrosion, the invention provides a unit, in particular a A melting and/or refining unit and/or a distributor system and/or a channel system, for conductively heatable melts (30), in particular glass melts, is provided. The melting and/or refining unit which has a tank and at least one electrode (20), the. The electrode (20) passing passes through an opening in a wall (10) of the tank so as to be immersed in the conductively heatable melt-(30), wherein the. The melting and/or refining unit has an apparatus for reducing the local introduction of heating power into at least one region adjacent to the electrode (20) – of the wall (10).